

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1, 3, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cacharelis (US 6,373,543 B1).

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takao et al. (US 4,917,471).

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takao et al.

The drawings are objected to for a minor informality, and under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for allegedly not showing every features of claim 3.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 1, 4-6, and 9 to further define the invention, canceled claims 2 and 3, and added new claims 21-23. Accordingly, claims 10-20 are withdrawn and claims 1, 4-9 and 21-23 are pending for consideration.

Applicants respectfully submit herewith a Request for Approval of Drawing Changes and a Submission of Formal Drawings

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to because element "I1" in FIG. 1 should be "11," and under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for allegedly not showing every features of claim 3.

With regard to FIG. 1, Applicants respectfully submit concurrently herewith a Submission of Formal Drawings that include correction of the informality pointed out by the Examiner. Specifically, FIG. 1 has been changed to correct the designation "11" to "11."

Applicants respectfully submit that the Submission of Formal Drawings do not introduce new matter, and are provided in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

With regarding to the objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), Applicants have canceled claim 3, thereby rendering the objection moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) be withdrawn.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cacharelis (US 6,373,543 B1), claims 1, 2, and 4-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takao et al. (US 4,917,471), and claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takao et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections as being based upon references that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features recites in amended independent claim 1, and hence dependent claims 4-9.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites in part a color filter comprising red, green, and blue regions is formed between the first substrate and the first orientation film, "wherein first, second, and third thicknesses of the second orientation film corresponding to the blue, green and red regions are each different." The Office Action alleges that the second alignment layer 111b in FIG. 1 of Cacharelis is the "second orientation film" as claimed. In addition, the Office

alleges that different thicknesses of the alignment control film 17 correspond to color units red (R), green (G), and blue (B) in FIG. 2 of Takao et al. Applicants respectfully disagree. In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, Cacharelis and Takao et al. are completely silent with respect to "first, second, and third thicknesses of the second orientation film corresponding to the blue, green, and red regions are each different" as recited by amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Cacharelis and Takao et al. fail to teach or suggest every feature recited by amended independent claim 1, and hence dependent claims 4-9.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b), 102(e), and 103(a) should be withdrawn because Cacharelis and Takao et al. neither teach nor suggest the novel combination of feature, whether taken singly or combined.

New Claims 21-23

Applicants have added new claims 21-23 to further define the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 21-23 are allowable.

Conclusions

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

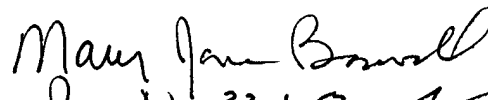
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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